



# Water Permits Division e-Newsletter

JANUARY 31, 2011

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A SUMMARY OF WATER PERMITTING NEWS & EVENTS

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 4

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2011

## PERMITS ISSUED

10/1/11—12/31/11

Individual Minors	62
Individual Majors	7
Sewage Sludge & Biosolids Use or Disposal	11

## GENERAL PERMITS

Class I Sanitary	82
Class II Sanitary	13
Class III Sanitary	12
Class IV Sanitary	36
Large Construction	146
Sand & Gravel	3
Petroleum UST	1
Oil & Gas Exploration—Coastal	42
Oil & Gas Exploration—Territorial	5
Auto Dealer	1
Hydrostatic Test	2
Exterior Vehicle Wash	15
Potable Water	1
Cement, Concrete & Asphalt	2
C&D Landfill	0
Groundwater	2
Dewater PST	1
Multi-Sector	38
Light Commercial	53

## % CURRENT

MAJORS	94.5
MINORS/GENERALS	98.9

## WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

ISSUED	64
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## TMDLS

Public Noticed	7
Approved by EPA	0

## ASSESSMENTS

Data Sets Evaluated	137
Solicitation of Views Letters Reviewed	146

## Water Permits Division (WPD) Newsletter

DEQ Water Permits Division publishes this quarterly newsletter to provide the regulated community, citizens, and other interested parties with updates and information relevant to water permitting, water quality modeling/TMDLs, water quality certifications, and water quality standards and assessments. We welcome and solicit your comments, recommendations, and input. Please contact Yvonne Baker at 225-219-3193 or Melvin Mitchell at 225-219-3197.

## Water Permits Division Staff Update

Ms. Sandra Stephens was promoted to the supervisor of the Water Quality Standards group. Ms. Kris Pintado was promoted to DCL-B position in the WPD. Ms. Debbie Sibley retired from DEQ in December 2011 and Jay Carney left the WPD to pursue new endeavors. We all express our thanks to them and wish them good luck in their future endeavors.

## 2012 Pretreatment Workshop

DEQ will hold a Pretreatment Workshop to assist municipalities on February 9, 2012 from 9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. This workshop is intended for municipalities and POTW operators that are required to implement a Pretreatment Program in accordance with LAC 33:IX.Subpart 2.Chapter 61. Participants will receive 4 LDHH Wastewater CEU's for attending. Please register online by at the following website: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2601/Default.aspx>. For additional information, please contact Melissa Reboul at (225) 219-3199 or [melissa.reboul@la.gov](mailto:melissa.reboul@la.gov).

## Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force

The Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force is focusing on accelerating progress in the development and implementation of comprehensive nutrient pollution reduction strategies for states within the Mississippi River and Atchafalaya River basins. The Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan 2008 calls upon these states to develop nutrient reduction strategies as soon as possible, but no later than 2013. Components considered essential for nutrient reduction strategies align with elements of EPA's recent guidance to states for management of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution. DEQ has a number of programs and activities that relate to these elements including routine monitoring for nutrients in surface waters, identification of priority watersheds for nutrient reductions, water quality modeling for nutrient reduction goals, and partnerships with stakeholders for implementation of best management practices to control nutrients. Contact Kris Pintado at 225-219-3218 or Stephanie Braden at 225-219-3187 for further information.

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## Contact Information Update

The WPD is working to update all permittee contact information, including contact name, mailing address, email address, and phone number, in our permit database. The updated information will streamline the process to contact permittees in case of emergency. To update your contact information, please send an email to the PPPSD at [facupdate@la.gov](mailto:facupdate@la.gov). Please be sure to include your facility's agency interest (AI) number and permit number.

## LAG260000 Issuance Update

As a result of the June 10, 2011 Louisiana Court of Appeal, First Circuit remand of the oil and gas territorial seas general permit LAG260000, the DEQ has determined that it is necessary to modify the general permit to remove the outfall for produced water. Facilities wishing to discharge produced water must seek authorization under an individual permit by submitting the Oil & Gas-IND permit application. Facilities currently discharging produced water under the authority of the LAG260000 permit must submit an O&G-IND permit application no later than April 1, 2012. Authorization to discharge produced water in the territorial seas will require participation in an evaluation of the effects of produced water discharges on the environment and human health. The DEQ will conduct a stakeholder meeting on February 23 at 1:30 p.m. at DEQ headquarters, Galvez Building, Room 1051, 602 N. 5th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802. DEQ will accept input from all stakeholders regarding the protocols and requirements for an evaluation of the effects of produced water discharges on the environment and human health. The proposed study requirements may be found on the LDEQ's website at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits.aspx>. A Potpourri notice was published on Jan. 20, 2012 and postcard was mailed to all permittees covered under the LAG260000 on Jan. 24. with the above information. Questions may be directed to Melvin C. Mitchell at (225) 219-3197, Bruce Fielding at (225) 219-3231 or Jennifer Sheppard at (225) 219-3499.

SEND E-MAIL TO [DEQ-](mailto:DEQ-)

[WWWATERPERMITS@LA.GOV](mailto:WWWATERPERMITS@LA.GOV) WITH QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT THIS



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## Integrated Report Updates

The 2010 Water Quality Integrated Report was partially approved by EPA on November 17, 2011. Assessments of dissolved oxygen for three coastal subsegments (LA021102\_00, LA070601\_00, and LA120806\_00) remain in question pending completion of EPA's public notice process. All other assessments for the 2010 Integrated Report have been fully approved by EPA. EPA Region 6 will post their final decision on the 303(d) List in the Federal Register. The 2010 report, particularly Appendix A which contains all water quality assessments for the state, can be found on the DEQ Website at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/WaterQualityStandardsAssessment/WaterQualityInventorySection305b/2010WaterQualityIntegratedReport.aspx>.

The 2012 Integrated Report is under development with submittal to EPA no later than April 1, 2012. For more information contact Al Hindrichs at 225-219-3212.

## 106 Supplemental Grants

The Clean Water Act provides DEQ with supplemental grant funds through Section 106 of the Act to help address a variety of water quality problems. WPD Water Quality Section personnel have recently completed activities funded under the FY10 Permits and Enforcement grant. Work completed under the FY10 Permits and Enforcement Grant included initial development of the LAR10, LAG26, and LAR05 online permit applications. Work plans for more recent Section 106 supplemental funds for FY10 and FY11 are presently being developed to further support the State Monitoring Strategy by providing for further data collection in Louisiana ecoregions to support nutrient criteria development and to fund EPA's contractor to conduct the National Wetlands Survey. For more information contact Tara Nixon at 225-219-3189.

## Sewage Sludge Haulers and Disposal Sites

WPD has registered 247 haulers for 2011-2012. The Annual Sewage Sludge Reporting Forms for the reporting period of Jan. 1, 2011 to Dec. 31, 2011 are due Feb. 19, 2012. A list of all approved sewage sludge disposal facilities and a separate list of all approved sewage sludge haulers is posted on the DEQ Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Internet site <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits/Biosolids.aspx>. Both lists will be updated every 60 days. For more information contact Eura DeHart at 225-219-3213 or Yvonne Baker at 225-219-3193.

## Louisiana's Nutrient Reduction Strategy

In cooperation with DEQ, LA Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) submitted a project proposal to develop elements for Louisiana's Nutrient Reduction Strategy in response to EPA's Gulf of Mexico Program Office Funding Opportunity (Sept. 30). If funded, the project would help to develop the overall strategy. Project proposal review is expected to be completed by EPA during mid January, 2012. Contact Kris Pintado at 225-219-3218 or Stephanie Braden at 225-219-3187 for further information about DEQ's participation in the Nutrient Reduction Strategy.

## DEQ's TMDL Program

In 2011, EPA Region 6 approved 38 Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) packages submitted by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality. These 38 approved TMDLs are the most TMDLs approved in any single year since 2002. A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet the water quality standards. TMDLs are a way to identify load reduction and other actions that can be taken to improve water quality. DEQ staff continues to assess the water quality of the streams, bayous and lakes throughout the state. By using this data, DEQ scientists can determine pollutant load allocations which will help maintain water quality in waterbodies that are not impaired, and improve those that are impaired. In addition, DEQ has public noticed seven new Consent Decree TMDLs in 2011. DEQ has been conducting meetings to discuss TMDLs and the need for more regionalized treatment in heavily impacted areas. For more information contact Chuck Berger at 225-219-3366.

## Antidegradation

LDEQ intends to public notice the final draft of the antidegradation procedures in the spring of 2012. For more information contact Yvonne Baker at 225-219-3193.

## Pesticides General Permit Update

The Final LPDES Pesticides General Permit was issued on October 31, 2011 with an effective date of October 31, 2011. The DEQ Pesticides General Permit is not for facilities already covered by a current LPDES Permit. Discharges and usage of pesticides by these facilities must be consistent with the issued and applicable LPDES permits, or Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) requirements, located on the container and applicable Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) Regulation governing pesticide usage. For more information see the WPD's website and Pesticides brochure at: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/DIVISIONS/WaterPermits.aspx> or contact Bruce Fielding at 225-219-3231 or Melvin Mitchell at 225-219-3197.

## EPA Proposes CAFO Rule

EPA's proposed concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) 308 rule can be found on the following website: <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/afo/aforule.cfm>. The proposed rule will not change which CAFOs need permits under NPDES. EPA's proposal will require CAFOs to provide five elements of basic information: facility contact information, production area location, whether the CAFO has an NPDES permit, the number and type of animals at the CAFO, and the number of acres available for land application of manure, litter, and process wastewater. The deadline to submit comments to EPA was January 19, 2012. A copy of DEQ's coordinated response is available on DEQ's Electronic Data Management System (EDMS). For more information, contact Kim Corts at (225) 219-3208.